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Division of Early Care and Education Bureau of Early Care Regulation

BECR MEMO 2011-03

DATE:

May 17, 2011

TO:

Certified Family Child Care Providers

Certified School-Age Programs

FROM:

Bureau of Early Care Regulation

RE:

Regulated Child Care and YoungStar Public Search

In June 2008 the state's Licensed Child Care Search website was launched. At that time Wisconsin joined an ever growing number of states offering regulatory information through the internet to assist consumers in finding the best child care arrangements for their family. Since 2008 the website has provided to consumers information on over 5,000 licensed programs.

In continuing the Department of Children and Families' goal of ensuring families have access to quality early care and education the department will be expanding the website to include both certified family child care and certified school-age programs effective June 6, 2011. The new website will be called the Regulated Child Care and YoungStar Public Search. This website will include both regulatory compliance information and YoungStar rating details on all regulated child care providers in the State of Wisconsin. Information obtained from the Regulated Child Care and YoungStar Public Search will continue to help consumers locate and learn more about all regulated child care programs in their area. Utilizing the website, consumers can search for regulated child care by county, city, zip code, provider name, ages served, etc. and review regulatory information including the provider's compliance history.

Compliance information available on the Regulated Child Care and YoungStar Public Search website will include results of monitoring by the certifying agency and/or licensing specialist and rule violations. For licensed providers, the website will show compliance information within last two years. For certified providers, the compliance information will be displayed from 6/6/11 forward. Additionally, the compliance history will also show results when no rule violations were observed. A new feature to the website will include a copy of noncompliance statements and correction plans for licensed providers. Certifying agencies will post either the non-compliance statement and correction plans or a phone number where consumers may call to obtain this information.

I encourage you to visit the existing Licensed Child Care Search website http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/childcare/licensed/search.HTM

If you have questions about the existing Licensed Child Care Search website or newly expanded Regulated Child Care and YoungStar Public Search website please contact the certification agency serving your county. Contact information is available at: http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/childcare/certification/pdf/certifiers.pdf